

# Claims

[c0001] 1. A cutting apparatus, in particular a microtome or an ultramicrotome for cutting a specimen into a plurality of thin slices comprising: an observation device, in particular a stereomicroscope, for observing the cut specimen surface and/or the thin slices, a pivoting device for pivoting the observation device and a positioning device provided with the pivoting device for positioning of the pivoting device at a defined angle.

[c0002] 2. The cutting apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein the positioning device comprises a detent element that makes possible positioning of the pivoting device in defined detent positions that correspond to a plurality of defined angles ( $\alpha$ ).

[c0003] 3. The cutting apparatus as defined in Claim 2, wherein the detent element is embodied in such a way that a positioning of the pivoting device between the detent positions is also possible.

[c0004] 4. The cutting apparatus as defined in Claim 2, wherein one or more detent grooves are provided on a pivot element of the pivoting device.

[c0005] 5. The cutting apparatus as defined in Claim 2, wherein a rotary knob that comprises the detent element is provided for positioning the pivoting device.

[c0006] 6. The cutting apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein the positioning device comprises a position marking, in particular a scale.

[c0007] 7. The cutting apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein a position storage device is provided for storing an angular position of the observation device.

[c0008] 8. A microtome or an ultramicrotome for cutting a specimen into a plurality of thin slices comprising: a stereomicroscope, for observing the cut specimen surface and/or the thin slices, a pivoting device for pivoting the stereomicroscope, a positioning device provided with the pivoting device for positioning of the pivoting device at a defined angle and a detent element that makes possible positioning of the pivoting device in defined detent positions that correspond to a plurality of defined angles ( $\alpha$ ).

[c0009] 9. A method for presetting a cutting device, in particular a microtome or an ultramicrotome for cutting a specimen into a plurality of thin slices, comprising the steps of:

- providing an observation device, in particular a stere-

omicroscope, for observing the cut specimen surface and/or the thin slices;

- pivoting the observation device with a pivoting device;
- and
- providing a positioning device wherein the pivoting of the observation device is accomplished to a defined angle.

[c0010] 10. The method as defined in Claim 9, wherein the pivoting is accomplished to defined detent positions that are provided on the positioning device.

[c0011] 11. The method as defined in Claim 9, wherein the pivoting is accomplished to a defined position marking, and the position marking being provided on the positioning device.

[c0012] 12. A method for presetting a microtome or an ultramicrotome for cutting a specimen into a plurality of thin slices, comprising the steps of:

- providing a stereomicroscope, for observing the cut specimen surface and/or the thin slices;
  - pivoting the stereomicroscope with a pivoting device;
- and
- providing a positioning device wherein the pivoting of the stereomicroscope is accomplished to a defined angle.

